

**REMARKS**

Claims 18-26 are currently pending in the present application, with claims 1-17 being canceled. It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Consideration of the application and allowance of the claims at an early date is respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 39303-20231.01.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: December 12, 2001

By:

Mehran Arjomand  
Registration No. 48,231

Morrison & Foerster LLP  
555 West Fifth Street  
Suite 3500  
Los Angeles, California 90013-1024  
Telephone: (213) 892-5630  
Facsimile: (213) 892-5454